



Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council FROM: Robert L. Davis

SUBJECT: Residential Burglary Increase Analysis DATE: May 27, 2005

Approved	/s/	Date	06/02/05
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This memorandum is prepared in response to City Council inquiries into the twenty percent increase in residential burglaries from calendar year 2003 (1,945) to calendar year 2004 (2,421). Burglary Investigation Staff attributes the increase in part to the increase in methamphetamine use and the utilization of burglary as a precursor crime to auto theft and identity theft.

The Department's ability to address the rise in burglaries has also been impacted negatively by the lack of investigative personnel available to investigate cases. Currently, the Financial Crimes Unit / Burglary Investigations Detail has only seven authorized burglary investigators (one sergeant and six officers). This low staffing level has restricted the ability for investigators to conduct proactive investigations. The Pawn Shop Detail position was vacant for months, due to the lack of available staffing, therefore processing of pawn slips was delayed, which in turn impacted investigative capacity. As of this week, the backlog is now up to date, due to the reassignment of a new officer. Additionally, the Department's burglary prevention capabilities have been restricted by the loss of two of six Crime Prevention Specialist positions eliminated in FY 04-05.

In light of the staffing shortage and general increase of residential burglaries, the Burglary Investigation Unit will undertake the following enforcement, intervention, and prevention measures in an attempt to reduce the incidence of burglaries:

- Share investigative resources with the Narcotic and Covert Investigations Unit, as burglars of often purchase narcotics with the proceeds of their crime.
- Work closely with the High Tech Unit to recover stolen property being sold online.
- Collaborate with outside agencies to ensure that intelligence is obtained and circulated regarding serial burglars that are being released into the community.
- Develop a burglary prevention video that can be presented on our Internet website SJPD.ORG.

/s/
ROBERT L. DAVIS
 Chief of Police

